

Grand Canyon School PTA Meeting Minutes

November 28, 2017

Grand Canyon School, Room 207

In attendance:

President Cherie Benefield, Vice President Betsy Donehoo, Treasurer Slim Woodruff, Secretary Kim Besom, Cory Clark, Brenda Clark, Lisa Otto, Linda Rakow-Schenkoske, Dan Tobin, Kara Chenevert, Craig Chenevert, Peg Lyle, Rose Moquino, Tracey Triggs, Jonathon Triggs, Amanda Heller, Andy Pearce

Agenda:

- Call to order, welcome members and guests**
- Thank you to: Adult/ student volunteers watching kids during meeting!**
- Approval of 10/26/17 minutes**
- Treasurer's Report**
- Old Business**
 - St. Mary's Food Backpacks**
 - Halloween Carnival Recap**
 - On the Edge shirt order**
 - STEM grants**
 - Movie/ Craft Night?**
- Updates**
 - Amazon Smile**
 - Drivers Ed?**
 - Class Wish**
- New Business**
 - Treasurer Election**
 - PTA Social- Maswik in December**
- Next meeting day/ location**
 - No December meeting**
 - January date**
- Adjournment**

The meeting came to order at 6:04pm.

There were no guest speakers or representatives from admin.

Treasurer's Report

After many, many years as the PTA treasurer and secretary, Slim Woodruff is stepping down, so the PTA is looking for a replacement treasurer. Thanks so much for all your service, Slim!

Income last month came in from the Halloween Carnival, sales of light-up bracelets, t-shirts, cookbooks, and from Amazon Smile. Expenses were paid out for the t-shirt order, for various supplies, for STEM and Makey Makey purchases. The final balance is \$15,314.27.

Approval of 10/26/17 minutes

Motion by Dan, seconded by Cory to approve the October meeting minutes. Approved unanimously.

Old Business

St. Mary's Food Backpacks- the food backpack program started up just before the Thanksgiving break, with about 50 kids signed up. The process will be that the food is delivered once per month on the 3rd Wednesday of each month. Then the food will be delivered each Thursday to the kids. Laura Chastain has made a sign-up calendar to track those willing to help distribute food. The PTA will continue to head the food distribution through December, until the program gets established. In 2018, other community organizations will step in to help. The initial food distribution went rather smoothly, especially with the assistance of Rosa and Alejandra from the school office. There are still some kinks to be worked out in the future, including getting food to kids who are absent due to illness and/or athletics.

Since St. Mary's is dependent upon donations, Dan suggested that comments, stories, and/or photos about the process will help St. Mary's advertise for their program. If you have any of those, please let Dan or the PTA know.

Halloween Carnival- the PTA raised \$558 at the Carnival. A special thanks to Cory and Craig for the awesome Plinko game, which was a big hit.

T-shirt Sale Campaign- the t-shirt campaign brought in almost \$700! The order has arrived, been sorted and shirts are being delivered. One teacher has expressed an interest in ordering 5 additional shirts. But since the shirts have to be ordered in groups of no less than 13, more shirts have to be ordered to complete the purchase. Peg offered to sell shirts and light-up bracelets at the next basketball game. Anyone desiring to order t-shirts, contact the PTA.

There are still about 75 of each color of the light-up bracelets, but they sold well at the last basketball game, so we'll keep selling them at games until they run out.

STEM/ STEAM Update- we didn't get the STEM PTA grant, but the school did get a separate \$2500 grant from APS. Amanda spoke of setting up the newly acquired STEM equipment in the library. She asked the PTA for money (about \$110) to purchase shelving for STEM storage. The APS grant allowed for the purchase of STEM kits, but with an extra \$75 from the PTA, they could purchase an additional supplement to the kit. Craig motioned that the PTA contribute the requested money, seconded by Laura, and passed unanimously. Peg said that she and Amanda were planning a family night to put the STEM kits into action, sometime in the new year. It was suggested that family night activities do best when combined with dinner fundraisers.

Craft/ movie/ family nights: December looks to be a busy month, but if anyone is interested in getting some family night activity going in the new year, please let us know.

Updates

Amazon Smile- Continue to spread the word about Amazon Smile and the ability to designate the GCS PTA as a charity recipient. Last month the PTA made \$7.23 through the program. Every bit helps.

Class Wish- Cory wants to get the program started in 2018 once logistics are worked out with school administration.

New Business

Facebook- Laura suggested that having a Facebook page might help the PTA get the word out about its programs. Since Laura already manages a couple other Facebook pages, she is willing to get one going for the PTA as well. Cherie will check with the school for approval.

School Advocacy- Dan mentioned that he had gotten info from Nicky Indicavitch related to a March to Save Our Schools, scheduled for January 6, 2018, in Phoenix. If a group wants to go carpool down for the event, please contact Dan. Dan has also been receiving more info related to school advocacy and would be happy to share this info with interested parties. Let him know if you are an interested party. Otherwise, the info will also be posted on the PTA website.

Treasurer Election- Dan also offered to step in as treasurer, to replace Slim, if no one else was interested. Cherie had received another offer of interest, so it was motioned by Laura and seconded by Kim, for Dan to act and train as interim treasurer, until a new one is selected.

PTA Social- for anyone interested in getting together to eat, socialize and talk PTA, Cherie will pick a date in December and a location and let everyone know.

Next meeting day/ location- there will be no December meeting, as the month is busy enough already, so the next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, January 30, 2018, at the GCS.

The meeting was **adjourned** at 7:18pm.

The PTA email address is: GCSchoolPTA@gmail.com and the website is: grandcanyonschoolpta.weebly.com

Please send us any comments or suggestions. We love to hear from you.